India–Slovakia Eye Stronger Economic Ties in Automobiles,

By Sitaram Mewati | Mumbai Automobiles, advanced manufacturing, engineering, technology and innovation are emerging as key areas for strengthening the India-Slovakia economic partnership, with Maharashtra positioned to play an important role in expanding bilateral trade and investment. Speaking at a meeting with Dr. Vijay Kalantri, President, All India Association of Industries (AIAI) and Chairman, MVIRDC World Trade Center Mumbai, in New Delhi, H.E. Robert Maxian, Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to India, said Slovakia has developed a strong manufacturing ecosystem, while India offers scale, talent and a rapidly expanding market. "Slovakia has developed a strong manufacturing ecosystem, while India offers scale, talent and a rapidly expanding market. The presence of global automakers demonstrates the possibilities that manufacturing, technology sharing and global



H.E. Robert Maxian With Dr. Vijay Kalantri

supply chains can create," Maxian said. He noted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to Slovakia, the first by an Indian Prime Minister since Slovakia's independence, had given fresh impetus to bilateral relations and created opportunities for stronger business partnerships, investment and technology cooperation. Dr. Kalantri said India and Slovakia had considerable untapped potential in trade, investment, joint ventures and industrial cooperation. He highlighted Maharashtra's strong manufacturing base, skilled workforce and entrepreneurial ecosystem, particularly in automobiles, railway locomotives, electric vehicles, battery technology, engineering, advanced manufacturing, technology and innovation. "In the past, World Trade Center Mumbai has had the privilege of hosting Slovak Prime Ministers and other high-level dignitaries for bilateral talks. Such high-level interactions should be resurrected once again to engage and enable meaningful dialogue to expand trade opportunities," Kalantri said. He added that Slovakia could become a trusted economic and strategic partner as India advances its Viksit Bharat 2047 vision and pursues its long-term economic growth ambitions. The meeting also highlighted opportunities arising from the broader India–EU framework. Maharashtra's strengths in automobiles, engineering, financial services, technology, logistics and manufacturing could make the state an important gateway for Slovak companies seeking to expand their presence in India.